

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the amendments above and the following comments.

The Examiner indicated that the application did not contain an abstract on a separate sheet. This is now provided.

The Examiner indicated that the Certificate of Correction changes had not been incorporated into the application. In response, the claim amendments above incorporate all of the changes in the Certificate of Correction with the exception of the change in the References Cited on the title page. Since the change in the References Cited on the title page is not technically part of the reissue abstract, specification, claims or drawings, Applicants do not believe any action is necessary with respect to this particular Certificate of Correction change. Should the Examiner determine otherwise, Applicants would appreciate an explanation from the Examiner exactly how this omission can be cured at this time.

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite in failing to recite the variables Q and Q¹. In response, Applicants point out that these variables were inadvertently specified as "O" groups in the formulas in the preliminary amendment dated June 25, 2003. Thus, "Q" and "Q¹" appear in the original patent claims, yet the preliminary amendment does not hint of an actual amendment to "O," for example, by the use of brackets and underlining. Accordingly, Applicants believe it is clear that no such amendment was intended, and the use of "O" instead of "Q" and "Q¹" was merely a typographical error. This

error has been corrected, and the present listing of claims recites the original "Q" and "Q¹" instead of "O." Since the original patent claims recite "Q" and "Q¹," the correction of the error is not shown as an amendment vis-à-vis the original patent claims.

Finally, the Examiner indicated that Applicants had not supplied a PTO Form 1449 listing all the references cited in the patent. Such a form is now attached.

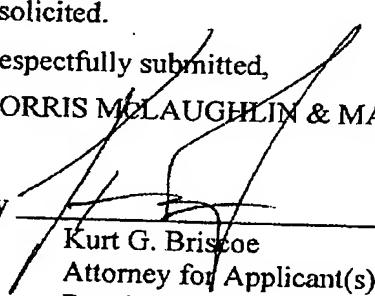
Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a bona fide response to all outstanding objections and rejections.

Applicants further believe that this application is in condition for immediate allowance. However, should the Examiner determine that any issue(s) of a minor nature remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at telephone number (212) 808-0700 so that the issue(s) might be promptly resolved.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
NORRIS MC LAUGHLIN & MARCUS, P.A.

By


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